

XVI.—*Descriptions of New Zealand Species of Pselaphidæ from Dr. Sharp's Collection in the British Museum.* By Major T. BROUN, F.E.S.

A PAPER containing descriptions of new species of Faroniini was forwarded to London for publication about two months ago. The present one deals principally with the Euplectini; but seven or eight species of the genus *Euplectopsis* must remain without names at present, as M. Ach. Raffray has in his possession, from Greymouth, several closely allied, perhaps identical, species which he may have described at Rome.

Mount Albert,
Auckland, N.Z.,
4th November, 1912.

List of new Species described, with numbers according with those in the 'Manual of New Zealand Coleoptera.'

EUPLECTINI.

3494. *Euplectopsis sanguineus*.
3495. „ *duplicatus*.
3496. „ *clavatulus*.
3497. *Plectomorphus longiceps*.
3498. „ *brevicornis*.
3499. „ *egenus*.
3500. *Vidamus modestus*.
3501. „ *sternalis*.
3502. *Zealandius fovealis*.

BRACHYGLUTINI.

3503. *Eupines simplex*.

Group EUPLECTINI.

EUPLECTOPSIS, Raffray.

Wytzman's Gen. Ins., Pselaphidæ, 1908, p. 82.

3494. *Euplectopsis sanguineus*, sp. n.

Shining, sanguineous; legs and antennæ light fusco-rufous, palpi and tarsi flavescent; pubescence yellowish grey, somewhat curled, with a few long erect setæ behind, the second and third dorsal segments with some very short, depressed, brassy, squamiform setæ.

Head longer than broad, evidently smaller than the thorax, slightly narrowed behind, with obtuse hind angles; depressed and smooth in front, antennal tubercles somewhat elevated but small, the foveæ rather ill-defined, placed

further back than the eyes and prolonged forwards, the occiput and sides distinctly punctate. *Eyes* small, composed apparently of three or four coarse facets. *Thorax* about as long as broad, widest and rounded at, or just before, the middle, rather more narrowed in front than behind; central channel deep and broad, extending from near the apex to the rather broader basal depression, which is connected with the deep lateral foveæ by a groove. The sides in front of these foveæ seem swollen and the base is bipunctate. *Elytra* quite a third longer and broader than the thorax, a little narrowed before the middle; sutural striæ well-marked, deep, broad and foveiform at the base; intra-humeral impressions also broad and deep at the base, the interval between each of these and the sutural stria appearing subcarinate; they become obsolete towards the middle and, in certain lights, seem duplicated; the suture is minutely seriate-punctate, the rest of the surface has a few indistinct scattered punctures. *Hind body* much shorter than the elytra, curvedly narrowed and deflexed behind, with a few very fine punctures, basal segment horizontal and quite as long as the next one.

Antennæ shorter than the head and thorax, rather slender; basal two joints almost equal, stout and oblong; joints 3-8 small and subglobular, slightly broader than long, ninth similar to the preceding one and only a little larger, tenth transverse, yet scarcely twice the breadth of the eighth, the terminal elongate-conical, distinctly acuminate and fully the length of the preceding four combined.

Most nearly allied to the northern *E. tumidus* (3379), but with even more acuminate terminal joints to the antennæ, the other joints also different. The head is rather smaller, more deeply depressed in front, so that its hinder portion is more convex in the middle, and it is less punctate; the elytra are broader behind.

♀. Length $1\frac{2}{3}$; breadth $\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Greymouth. One, found by Mr. R. Helms, in Dr. Sharp's collection, British Museum.

3495. *Euplectopsis duplicatus*, sp. n.

Nitid, slightly convex, moderately elongate, not slender; somewhat castaneo-rufous, elytra brighter, legs and antennæ of a paler hue, tarsi and palpi flavescent; sparingly clothed with suberect, unequally elongate, yellowish hairs, the head with numerous shorter decumbent ones.

Head not much smaller than the thorax, moderately closely and distinctly punctate; genæ narrowed behind,

with obtuse angles : the foveæ rather shallow, not distinctly extending forwards to the rather flat forehead ; antennal tubercles distant and small. *Eyes* moderately large, not very convex, situated at the middle. *Thorax* of about equal length and breadth, rounded and widest just before the middle, rather more narrowed in front than behind : it is quite distinctly but irregularly punctured, most closely near the base : lateral foveæ subrotundate and deep, without any definite anterior prolongation, and not distinctly united to the semicircular basal fossa, discal furrow moderately broad and deep and almost reaching the apex. *Elytra* subquadrate, with somewhat rounded shoulders, a little depressed at the base and apex, without definite punctation ; sutural striæ broad, deep, and foveiform at the base, but duplicated for most part of their length, the outer border of each carinate at the base, more feebly so behind ; intra-humeral impressions also deep and broad at the base, but becoming obsolete towards the middle. *Hind body* rather shorter than the elytra, much narrowed and deflexed near the extremity, the basal three segments subequal.

Legs rather long, simple.

Antennæ fully the length of the head and thorax ; basal joint cylindrical and nearly twice as long as broad, second oviform, evidently longer than broad, the next small and subovate, joints 4-8 small and moniliform, the eighth shortest, fifth and seventh slightly larger than adjacent ones, ninth moderate, distinctly larger than the preceding one, but not as broad as the transverse tenth, the terminal one nearly the length of the preceding three combined, conical and acuminate.

Underside finely pubescent, pale chestnut-red. Prosteronum carinate along the middle. Metasternum convex and moderately elongate. Basal ventral segment covered by the femora, second obtusely elevated across the middle for nearly half of its whole breadth and minutely ciliate behind, third curvedly depressed across the middle of the base and about as long as the following two singly, sixth large, obtusely triangular, the operculum distinct, oviform, and extending from the apex nearly to the base.

After studying the descriptions of the five species (3198-3202) referred to *Trichomyx* by Herr Reitter, I feel pretty sure that the peculiar duplication of the sutural striæ and the rather plane head are sufficiently good distinguishing characters. None described by me are exactly similar.

♂. Length $1\frac{1}{2}$; breadth $\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Greymouth (*Helms*). British Museum. A single male from Dr. Sharp's collection.

3196. *Euplectopsis clavatulus*, sp. n.

Elongate, not slender, slightly convex, nitid, finely, irregularly, but not closely punctate; castaneo-rufous, legs and antennæ paler, palpi and tarsi flavescens; rather thinly clothed with decumbent, distinct, greyish pubescence.

Head smaller than the thorax, genæ nearly straight, with obtuse angles; the foveæ distinct, more or less confluent in front, antennal tubercles distant, rather small. *Thorax* narrow, oviform, rather longer than broad, moderately rounded near the middle, less narrowed behind than in front, where it is almost as broad as the occiput; discal furrow well marked, extending from the base nearly to the apex, lateral foveæ subrotundate, rather large and deep, and united to the rather narrow basal depression. *Elytra* sub-oblong, about a third longer than the thorax, evidently broader than it is, a little rounded near the shoulders; sutural striae well marked throughout but not broad, punctiform at the base, with a basal puncture alongside each; the intra-humeral impressions short and broad, indistinctly duplicated, bipunctate at the base. *Hind body* as broad as the wing-cases, deflexed behind and therefore appearing shorter, the basal three segments slightly increasing. *Legs* stout, the anterior tibiæ somewhat arched and longer than the others.

Antennæ rather shorter than the head and thorax, moderately stout, gradually incrassate from the seventh joint onwards; second joint oblong-oval, nearly as long as the basal, third slightly longer than broad, fourth and fifth about equal, neither quite as long as broad, sixth smallest, seventh rather broader than the sixth, joints 8-10 successively dilated, eleventh conical, subacuminate, hardly the length of the preceding three.

Metasternum moderately elongate and convex. Basal ventral segment partly covered by the femora, segments 2-4 slightly increasing, fifth widely incurved behind, barely half the length of its predecessor in the middle, sixth semi-circularly emarginate, the seventh with a distinct oblong operculum.

Rather broader than Reitter's *E. longicollis* (3198), and at once differentiated by the gradual enlargement of the last five antennal joints, forming a sort of elongated club; and as each clytron is quadripunctate at the base, this species exhibits two well-marked characters which, in conjunction, and independently of details of sculpture, separate it from any other species known to me.

♂. Length $1\frac{2}{3}$; breadth quite $\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Greymouth. Found by Mr. Helms. One example in Dr. Sharp's collection, British Museum.

PLECTOMORPHUS, Raffray.

Wytsman's Gen. Ins., Pselaphidæ, 1903, p. 105.

3497. *Plectomorphus longiceps*, sp. n.

Subdepressed, shining, sanguineous, antennæ and legs paler, palpi and tarsi fulvescent; pubescence greyish, mingled with long erect hairs.

Head large, as long as the thorax and, in line with the moderately prominent eyes, as broad as it is, genæ slightly narrowed towards the rounded hind angles; its surface shining but minutely asperate, the central portion obtusely elevated as far as the eyes, broadly depressed between, and just behind, the elevated antennal tubercles, which are vertical in front; the well-marked foveæ, situated just behind the eyes, are prolonged to the frontal depression. *Thorax* quite as long as broad, widest and rounded before the middle, more narrowed in front than behind; its sculpture similar to, but more distant than, that of the head; mesial channel deep, extending from the apex to the angulate basal depression, this is united to the lateral foveæ, which are prolonged as grooves almost to the apex. *Elytra* subquadrate, distinctly narrowed before the middle, of equal length and breadth, with fine indefinite sculpture; sutural striæ broad and deep, not distinctly foveate at the base, intra-humeral impressions also broad and deep, indistinctly prolonged to the middle. *Hind body* nearly as broad as but evidently shorter than the elytra, basal segment slightly longer than the next, with a short median depression in front, these two are horizontal, the others deflexed.

Antennæ elongate, as long as the head and thorax, rather slender, finely pubescent; basal joint cylindrical, quite twice as long as broad, second fully half the length of the first, oblong, joints 3-6 decreasing in length, more or less longer than broad, eighth very slightly broader than the oviform seventh, ninth rather broader than the eighth, bead-like, but hardly as broad as the subquadrate tenth, the terminal conical, subacuminate, nearly as long as the preceding two combined.

When compared with the type of the genus, *P. spinifer* (2476), this is seen to be larger, its head is manifestly longer, more oviform, and with obsolete hind angles, the thorax is longer, the elytra are more narrowed near the base, with

larger intra-humeral impressions, the abdomen is shorter, but the antennæ are longer, with a decidedly more elongate basal joint.

♀. Length $2\frac{1}{3}$; breadth $\frac{2}{3}$ mm.

Greymouth (*Helms*). One from Dr. Sharp's collection in the British Museum.

3498. *Plectomorphus brevicornis*, sp. n.

Elongate, rather narrow, glossy, with greyish-yellow, depressed and suberect but not very elongate, pubescence; head and thorax sanguineous, abdomen more infuscate, elytra fulvo-rufous, legs and antennæ of a lighter hue, tarsi and palpi flavescent.

Head as broad, in line with the rather large moderately convex eyes, as the middle of the thorax but a good deal shorter than it is, the genæ distinctly narrowed behind, with obtuse hind angles; its narrow central portion is convex and projects as far as the front of the eyes; the depression between the antennal tubercles is divaricate and extends backwards near each side, becoming gradually broader and deeper near the base, so that the usual foveæ are obliterated. At the middle of the base there is a minute angular impression. *Thorax* scarcely longer than broad, slightly rounded and widest before the middle, only very slightly and gradually narrowed behind, more, and quite obliquely, in front; central channel deep, extending from near the apex to the base, but hardly any broader behind than at the middle, so that the common basal depression is only marked off by the strip uniting it to the large lateral foveæ, which are prolonged as grooves to the front. *Elytra* suboblong, a third longer than the thorax, slightly narrowed near the shoulders, indistinctly punctate; sutural striæ deep, foveiform at the base, alongside each there is a basal fovea which is nearly equal in size to the short, foveiform intra-humeral impressions. *Hind body* nearly as long and broad as the elytra, with the basal three segments nearly horizontal and equal. *Legs* slender, simple.

Antennæ shorter than the head and thorax, with elongate slender pubescence; the suboblong (rotundate in one antenna) second joint nearly as long as the basal; joints 3-8 transverse, fifth and seventh only a little larger, the sixth and eighth rather smaller than the other ones, ninth nearly double the size of the eighth and almost as broad as the transverse tenth, the terminal one conical but not acuminate, hardly the length of the preceding two combined.

The relatively large eyes, occupying a third of the length of each side of the rather short head, the unusual basal sculpture of the elytra, and the short antennæ, all the joints of which except the basal two and the eleventh are transverse, indicate a new form intermediate between this genus and *Euplectopsis*. Though more like the latter genus in form, its broad head and trisulcate thorax do not accord with typical species, and as there is only a solitary individual, it is not advisable to institute a new genus for its reception.

Length $1\frac{2}{3}$; breadth $\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Auckland. British Museum, from Dr. Sharp's collection.

3499. *Plectomorphus egenus*, sp. n.

Nitid, very slightly convex, fulvo-testaceous; legs and antennæ paler, bearing depressed, slender, greyish pubescence.

Head as large as the thorax, rounded behind the rather large eyes, with obsolete hind angles, the foveæ prolonged and confluent in front, antennal tubercles slightly elevated and distinctly separated. *Thorax* rather broader than long, a little rounded and widest near the front, obliquely narrowed there, very gradually behind; central channel broad and deep, extending almost from the apex to the base, with a transverse stria uniting it to the lateral foveæ, which extend as grooves to the front. *Elytra* slightly narrowed before the middle, suboblong, with broad sutural striæ; these are punctiform at the base, with a distinct basal puncture alongside each, intra-humeral impressions foveiform, rather short and only obsoletely prolonged backwards. *Hind body* almost as broad as the elytra, but much shorter, its basal segment nearly as long as either of the next two. *Legs* simple, slender.

Antennæ rather stout, of nearly the same length as the head and thorax, with slender pubescence; second joint subrotundate and about as large as the exposed portion of the first, third small, slightly narrowed at the base, joints 4-8 transversely moniliform, the sixth and eighth just perceptibly smaller than the seventh, ninth and tenth transverse, the former not quite as broad as the other, eleventh conical, not acuminate, nearly equalling the preceding two.

Less elongate and convex than *P. brevicornis*, with almost similarly formed antennæ, the head rather broader and more curvate behind, the thorax and elytra slightly shorter, the intra-humeral impressions not so deep, and the abdomen

evidently shorter. Fully matured individuals are doubtless more rufescent.

Length $1\frac{1}{2}$; breadth $\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Tairua. This seems to be another of my unique specimens sent to Dr. Sharp and now preserved in the British Museum.

VIDAMUS, Raffray.

Wytsman's Gen. Ins., Pselaphidæ, 1908, p. 89.

3500. *Vidamus modestus*, sp. n.

Elongate, rather narrow, subparallel, nitid, very slightly convex, castaneo-rufous, with the antennæ and legs paler, tarsi and palpi flavescent; clothed with depressed, short, yellowish-grey pubescence.

Head rather short, gradually yet distinctly narrowed behind the moderately large eyes, its hind angles obtuse and but little broader than the thoracic apex in the female; in the male subquadrate, with the obtuse hind angles evidently broader than the front of the thorax; the forehead obtusely angulate in the middle and oblique towards the sides, the foveæ situated just behind the eyes and prolonged into the slight impression across the forehead. *Thorax* small, subcordate, rounded and widest just before the middle, with a large rotundate fovea at each side and an angulate depression in the middle in front of the base, united by a transverse stria; the basal margin is tripunctate. *Elytra* suboblong, slightly narrowed near the shoulders, without perceptible punctation, sutural striæ well marked, deepest at the base, where there is a small puncture near each; intra-humeral impressions foveiform. *Hind body* rather narrower than the elytra but nearly as long, basal segment almost as long as the second or third, the others deflexed. *Legs* rather slender, simple.

Antenne shorter than the head and thorax, distinctly pubescent towards the extremity; second joint oblong-oval, about as long as the basal, third smaller than second, yet distinctly longer than broad, fourth to eighth small and moniliform, fifth and seventh slightly larger, ninth distinctly larger than eighth, but not as broad as the transverse tenth, the terminal conical and acuminate, longer than the preceding two united.

Male.—*Underside* chestnut-red, finely pubescent; abdomen finely punctate, segments 2-4 slightly decreasing, fifth rather

shorter than fourth, slightly but widely emarginate behind, sixth large, deeply medially concave behind, the supplementary one subquadrate.

Much more slender than Sharp's *Euplectus convexus* (254) and differing from all the older species described by myself by the shorter, posteriorly narrowed, head of the female and other details.

Length $1\frac{2}{3}$; breadth $\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Tairua, Auckland. Three found by myself and sent to Dr. Sharp about forty years ago. In the British Museum.

3501. *Vidamus sternalis*, sp. n.

Elongate, subdepressed, shining, finely punctate, with fine, suberect, yellowish-grey pubescence; head, thorax, and abdomen castaneo-rufous; clytra, legs, and antennæ fulvescent.

Head not perceptibly narrower than the middle of the thorax, with rounded hind angles; the foveæ are placed near the base and extend forwards as broad channels to the slightly raised frontal margin; when examined sideways the transverse frontal impression seems obsolete. *Thorax* slightly longer than broad, rounded and widest just before the middle, the postmedian depression angular and ending as a puncture at the basal margin; there is another basal puncture at each side of the middle; lateral foveæ deep, united to the central depression by a groove. *Elytra* suboblong, a little narrowed near the shoulders, fully a third longer and broader than the thorax; sutural striæ well marked, punctiform at the base, and with a small basal puncture alongside each; intra-humeral impressions short, each minutely bipunctate at the base. *Hind body* as long as the elytra, the intermediate segments about equal. *Legs* simple.

Antennæ as long as the head and thorax; second joint subquadrate and shorter than the basal one, third and fifth slightly larger than the fourth, joints 6-8 slightly increasing in breadth, ninth not as broad as the transverse tenth terminal one twice the length of its predecessor.

Underside chestnut-red. Metasternum with a punctiform fovea behind each of the middle coxæ and another near each side. Abdomen clongate; second and third segments equal, each longer than the basal one, fifth densely and minutely setose in front, with a linear impression across the middle, so that this segment seems duplicated (no distinct suture, however, can be seen), sixth large, slightly rounded behind but damaged and detached.

The head and thorax are longer than those of *V. modestus*, the sutural striæ are deeper and broader, the antennæ are more incrassate towards the extremity, and the metasternal foveæ have not been noticed in any other species.

Length 2; breadth nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Greymouth (*Helms*). One from Dr. Sharp's collection, British Museum.

ZEALANDIUS, Raffray.

Wytman's Gen. Ins., Pselaphidæ, 1908, p. 111.

3502. *Zealandius fovealis*, sp. n.

Elongate, rather narrow, nitid, head subopaque; clothed with decumbent greyish pubescence and long upright setæ; dark rufous, legs and antennæ pale chestnut-red, tarsi and palpi flavescens.

Head smaller than the thorax, narrowed in front of the minute eyes; genæ slightly narrowed behind, with obtuse angles, moderately closely and distinctly punctate; antennal tubercles distant and slightly elevated, the foveæ small, situated just behind the eyes and only indistinctly prolonged to the flattened forehead. *Thorax* subcordate, widest before the middle, more gradually narrowed behind than in front, of about equal length and breadth, more distinctly punctured near the base than elsewhere; discal furrow moderately deep and extending from near the apex to the angular basal depression; lateral foveæ subrotundate, without any perceptible anterior prolongation, and not definitely connected with the basal fossa. *Elytra* scarcely longer than broad, curvedly narrowed towards the base and but little wider than the thorax there; they are only slightly transversely convex and somewhat indefinitely punctured; sutural striæ broad, foveiform and deep at the base, and apparently duplicated, the dorsal nearly similar but more shallow behind, the interstices carinate. *Abdomen* as long as the wing-cases, as broad at the base, but narrowed and deflexed posteriorly; basal three segments nearly horizontal and slightly increasing.

Antennæ as long as the head and thorax, rather thickly pubescent towards the extremity; basal joint red, cylindrical, its length nearly double the breadth, second shorter, oblong-oval, the next distinctly narrowed at the base, joints 4-7 moniliform and almost equal, eighth smaller than seventh, contracted apically, ninth and tenth subquadrate, the latter

the larger, both evidently larger than the preceding ones, the terminal one largest, conical and acuminate.

Only a single species has been recorded from the same locality—*Z. fulgens* (3384); but it is a much broader insect, with a large *Vidamus*-like head, and, moreover, the lateral thoracic foveæ are prolonged as grooves to the front. It differs also from the other members of Section 2 by the more elongate hind body, narrower head, and the almost entire absence of the usual transverse connecting stria between the lateral foveæ and basal fossa.

Length $1\frac{2}{3}$; breadth $\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Greymouth (*Mr. R. Hehns*). One (a female, I believe) from Dr. Sharp's collection, British Museum.

Group BRACHYGLUTINI.

EUPINES, King.

Wytsman's Gen. Ins., Pselaphidæ, 1908, p. 206.

3503. *Eupines simplex*, sp. n.

Glabrous, shining, smooth, moderately convex; piceo-rufous, with the legs and antennæ rufescent, tarsi and palpi obscurely testaceous.

Head subquadrate, somewhat narrowed behind the moderately large eyes, with two small interocular foveæ, and (in the male only) biimpressed in front. *Thorax* about as long as broad, rounded and widest before the middle, without definite sculpture. *Elytra* nearly double the length and breadth of the thorax and, in conjunction with the abdomen, of uninterruptedly oval contour, with fine sutural striæ. *Legs* elongate, simple.

Antennæ as long as the head and thorax, their terminal three joints more thickly pubescent than the others and distinctly larger; basal joint stouter but hardly any longer than the oblong second, third and fourth rather smaller than the following one, seventh and eighth bead-like and slightly broader than the preceding ones, ninth transverse, distinctly broader than the eighth but smaller than the tenth, the terminal one large, subconical, twice the length of the tenth.

Underside dark red, finely and distantly punctate, with numerous slender, decumbent, yellowish hairs. Metasternum unimpressed. Basal ventral segment invisible in the middle, second nearly as large as the remaining ones combined, the next two very short in the middle, the terminal large.